

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1-31. (cancelled)

32. (currently amended) A method for accelerating the setting of a hydraulic inorganic binder composition to which has been added an additive comprising hydrophilic functional groups, wherein the additive comprising hydrophilic functional groups is a film-forming polymer comprising anionic hydrophilic groups, comprising the step of adding to said composition a sufficient amount of calcium silicate hydrates or of silica with a high specific surface of at least 200 m<sup>2</sup>/g, effective to accelerate the hydraulic binder.

33. (currently amended) The method of claim 32 for accelerating the setting of a hydraulic inorganic binder composition to which has been added an additive comprising hydrophilic functional groups comprising the steps of:

- a) adding to said additive a sufficient amount of calcium silicate hydrates or of silica of high specific surface of at least 200 m<sup>2</sup>/g, effective to accelerate the hydraulic binder, in an aqueous solution with stirring; and
- b) added to the suspension obtained in stage a) the hydraulic inorganic binder composition.

34. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 33, further ~~comprising~~ comprising an additional step of drying the suspension obtained in ~~step~~ step a) until a powder is obtained.

35. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 34, wherein the drying is carried out by an atomization process.

36. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 33, wherein the calcium silicate hydrates are compounds of following formula (I):



in which:

X represents an alkali metal chosen from Li, Na, K, Rb, Cs or their mixture;

~~Wherein~~ wherein:

$$0 \leq a \leq 2$$

$$0 \leq b \leq 1$$

$$1 \leq c \leq 5$$

$$0 \leq d \leq 1$$

or, optionally, wherein:

$$0 \leq a \leq 0.66$$

$$0 \leq b \leq 1$$

$$1 \leq c \leq 5$$

$$0 \leq d \leq 0.4.$$

37. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim ~~3-6~~ 36, wherein the calcium silicate hydrates are compounds of formula (I) ~~in which a, b and d are zero, that is to say~~ are silica, optionally a precipitated silica.

38. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein the silica has a specific surface ~~is at least 200 m<sup>2</sup>/g, optionally~~ of at least 300 m<sup>2</sup>/g.

39. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 32, wherein the calcium silicate hydrate or silica is added in an amount of between 0.5 and 200%, optionally between 10 and 100%, by weight of dry calcium silicate hydrates or silica with respect to the weight of the dry additive comprising anionic hydrophilic functional groups.

40. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim ~~40~~ 32, wherein the amount of calcium silicate hydrates or of silica is approximately 50% by weight of dry calcium silicate hydrates or silica of high specific surface with respect to the weight of the dry additive comprising anionic hydrophilic functional groups.

41. (cancelled)

42. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 41 ~~32~~, wherein the anionic hydrophilic groups are carboxyl, sulfonate, phosphate, phosphonate, sulfate or boronate groups.

43. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 41 ~~32~~, wherein the film-forming polymer is based on at least one vinyl acetate, styrene/butadiene, styrene/acrylate, acrylate, styrene/butadiene/acrylate homopolymer or copolymer.

44. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 41 ~~32~~, wherein the film-forming polymer is prepared by an emulsion polymerization process and is in the form of an aqueous dispersion or in the form of a powder, it being possible for said powder to be redispersed in water.

45. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 41 ~~32~~, wherein the film-forming polymer exhibits a surface comprising carboxyl groups and ~~thus a degree of~~ a surface acidity, wherein the ~~degree of~~ surface acidity is between 80 and 1200, optionally between 100 and 600 microequivalents of --COOH functional group per gram of polymer.

46. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 41 ~~32~~, wherein the hydraulic inorganic binders comprise between 0.1% and 30%, optionally between 0.1% and 20% by weight of dry polymer with respect to the weight of the hydraulic binder.

47. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 32, wherein the hydraulic binder is a cement selected from the group consisting of high-alumina Portland, blast-furnace Portland, fly ash, calcined shales or calcium silicates formed by the reaction of pozzolans with lime.

48. (previously presented) Tiling bonding cements, smoothing and finishing coatings, adhesives and coatings for insulating complexes, self-leveling floor coatings, repair mortars, leaktight coatings and grouts for the cementation of oil wells, comprising an hydraulic inorganic binder composition made by the method of claim 32.